

I am in support of the above referenced petition for the following reasons:

- * I have been a ham radio operator for over 10 years. In that time I have watched the decline in number of operators in HF frequencies. I have the technical skill to obtain an Extra Class license, but can not master the morse code requirement. I have been frustrated with this situation for years. I feel I am restricted from a valuable and beneficial hobby by an out dated licensing requirement.

- * The morse requirement does not eliminate abuses or maintain high standards in the ranks, as evidence by activities on 3Mhz bands.

- * The FCC has the legal basis to eliminate the requirement immediately and bring the US in alignment with the international community. Why prolong this punitive requirement?

The reasons go on and on. There is no realistic argument for the code other than restricting access to an "elite" membership.

Please remove all morse code requirements IMMEDIATELY, don't make all the worthy operators continue to be restricted.

Thank you,
Tom Bolton (KD4LIY)